

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to an apparatus for supporting material to be treated in continuously operated thermal treatment furnaces, where the supporting of the material is realized by means of support elements installed externally to the thermal treatment furnace, in the vicinity of the orifice of the furnace, said apparatus comprising at least two support elements that are installed movably, so that the mutual positions of the support elements can be adjusted by means of a drive arrangement of the support apparatus. According to the invention, in connection with the housing element used for supporting of the support elements, there is installed at least one gas flow control element which enables the flowing of the gas used for treating the material between the support element and the control element, said control element also constituting part of the sealing of the thermal treatment furnace.